



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF Planning & Budget

COVID-19 LOCAL ASSISTANCE MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM NOVEMBER 2021 REPORT

PROGRAM SUMMARY:

During the 2021 First Special Session, held on May 19, 2021, the Legislature passed [HB 1004, COVID-19 Grant Program Amendments \(M. Schultz\)](#). This bill appropriated \$50 million of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Fund money to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB) to create a statewide grant program, the COVID-19 Local Assistance Matching Grant Program (grant program), for local governments to complete local and regional ARPA eligible projects. HB 1004 also established a Review Committee made up of members reflected on the following pages. This grant program leverages ARPA funds by using both state and local monies on important local government projects.

To facilitate this program, GOPB established an online portal through which local governments could apply to receive ARPA local match program grant funds for certain purposes related to COVID-19 recovery. The online grant portal opened on Aug. 16, 2021 and closed on Sept. 15, 2021. The grant program was open to applications from counties, cities, towns, metro townships, local districts, and special service districts.

HB 1004 requires GOPB to report a summary of the procedures, criteria, and requirements of the grant program, a summary of recommendations of the Review Committee, the number of applications submitted, the number of grants awarded, and amount of grant funds awarded, and any other information seen as relevant before November 30 of each year.

PROGRAM PROCEDURES, CRITERIA, AND REQUIREMENTS:

A [COVID-19 Local Assistance Matching Grant Program Guidance](#) document was posted on GOPB's website to communicate the procedures, criteria, and requirements for the grant program (see Attachment A). This document describes the program, the scoring criteria, the application process, and the ARPA eligibility requirement. In summary, applicants could submit an application for a project in the categories of broadband, economic opportunities and recovery, housing, public health, and water and sewer. Projects were scored in a general category worth 75 points and in a project-specific category worth 25 points (see the guidance document linked above for details on the general and project-specific criteria). Projects were also screened for ARPA eligibility.

SUMMARY OF SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS:

In the 30 days the online grant portal was open for applications, GOPB received 445 submitted applications totaling \$1.076 billion in requested funding with total project costs more than \$4.4



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billion. These applications came from 246 applicants, 44% from rural Utah and 56% from urban Utah. Urban was defined by the committee as counties of the first to third classes and rural defined as counties of the fourth to sixth classes. See Figure 1 for a summary of applications by project category type.

ALL APPLICATIONS BY PROJECT CATEGORY

Project category	# of submitted applications	% of total submitted applications	Amount requested	% of total amount requested
Broadband	15	3%	\$ 29,905,094	3%
Economic Recovery	32	7%	\$ 126,851,239	12%
Housing	14	3%	\$ 31,213,061	3%
Public Health	25	6%	\$ 31,607,096	3%
Water and Sewer	359	81%	\$ 856,738,976	80%
Grand Total	445		\$ 1,076,315,466	

Figure 1

After the online grant portal closed, GOPB reviewed and scored each of the 445 applications according to criteria outlined in the program guidance document. A team of 33 reviewers, consisting of GOPB analysts and subject matter experts, provided multiple scores to each application. After review, scores were averaged to establish a final average score to inform the Review Committee. Finally, each application was screened for ARPA eligibility. If an application did not provide enough information to make its eligibility clear, the project's eligibility was marked as "Unclear." Because the Treasury tied eligibility of water and sewer infrastructure projects to existing federal regulations for water and sewer loan programs, eligibility for water and sewer applications for this grant program was determined by reviewers from the Utah Department of Environmental Quality who administers those federally funded water and sewer loan programs.

A complete list of all applications, organized by score, by category, by applicant, and by rural vs urban, and each of the applications, was provided to Review Committee members for consideration.

REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

HB 1004 mandated that a five member review committee meet to make recommendations to GOPB concerning the procedures, criteria, requirements, and the allocation of grant funds. The five member Review Committee consists of the following individuals:

1. Sophia DiCaro, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (Committee Chair)



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2. Rep. Carl Albrecht, Utah House of Representatives
3. Sen. Kirk Cullimore, Utah State Senate
4. Cameron Diehl, Executive Director, Utah League of Cities and Towns
5. Brandy Grace, CEO, Utah Association of Counties

The Review Committee met on Sept. 9, 2021 to approve the criteria and procedures outlined in the [COVID-19 Local Assistance Matching Grant Program Guidance](#) and then met again on Oct. 25, 27, and 28, 2021 to consider the submitted applications and to make recommendations to GOPB on the allocation of funds. The Committee recommended a Tier 1 list consisting of 30 projects totaling \$55 million in awarded funds, along with a Tier 2 list consisting of 14 projects totaling \$13 million. Some projects were recommended to receive less funding than was originally requested by the applicant. This over allocation of funds was recommended by the Review Committee to address the potential case that a project couldn't move forward, or the case in which a project was determined to be ineligible for ARPA funding in the project application category after additional clarifying information was sought from the applicant.

GRANT AWARDS:

After contacting applicants on the Tier 1 list and making a final eligibility determination for any project with "Unclear" ARPA eligibility, GOPB has created a final funding list (see Attachment B) consisting of 36 projects totaling \$49,461,396 in awarded grant funds. The grant program was able to leverage \$49.5 million in state ARPA allocation at a five to one match rate with local match funding, with total project costs totaling \$300.7 million. Projects in urban counties will receive 54% of the funds, while 46% of the funds will go to projects in rural counties. See Figure 2 for a summary of the final funding list by project category type. HB 1004 authorizes the remainder of the \$50 million to be used for administrative costs of the grant program. GOPB is now working with each grantee to complete a Grant Agreement before funding is dispersed.

FINAL FUNDING BY PROJECT CATEGORY

Project category	# of projects	Grant funding	% of total grant funding
Broadband	2	\$ 1,175,000	2%
Economic Recovery	4	\$ 3,645,433	7%
Housing	5	\$ 9,013,061	18%
Public Health	2	\$ 1,677,653	3%
Water and Sewer	23	\$ 33,950,249	69%
Grand Total	36	\$ 49,461,396	

Figure 2



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APPENDIX A



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COVID-19 Local Assistance Matching Grant Program Guidance

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 Local Assistance Matching Grant Program, established by HB 1004, COVID-19 Grant Program Amendments (M. Schultz, K. Cullimore), seeks to leverage American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds by using both state and local monies on projects which will have high return on investment for residents.

Utah has a long history of effectively managing government finances and maximizing the impact of taxpayer funds. Through this grant program, we will continue our legacy of fiscal responsibility and collaboration to ensure federal monies are spent on projects that will make the most difference for our communities. A five member selection committee, along with experts in ARPA eligibility areas, will review and rank each application using the guidance in this document before making final selections.

Selection Committee

1. Sen. Kirk Cullimore, Utah State Senate
2. Rep. Carl Albrecht, Utah House of Representatives
3. Sophia DiCaro, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
4. Cameron Diehl, Executive Director, Utah League of Cities and Towns
5. Brandy Grace, CEO, Utah Association of Counties

SCORING

Points will be awarded to projects in a general category (75 points), and in project-specific scoring categories (25 points). In the case that more than one category applies to a project, the top scoring category will be used. The maximum number of points which can be awarded to any project is 100. Applications that select an "Other" category will be eligible for up to 25 points based on comparison to other projects.

ARPA TREASURY ELIGIBILITY

Please note that no application will be considered which does not meet [ARPA eligibility guidance](#) as established by the U.S. Treasury.

APPLICATION PROCESS

COVID-19 Local Assistance Matching Grant Program application can be accessed at gopb.utah.gov/localmatch. The maximum upload size for supporting documents is 10 megabytes. Any documents larger than that may be added as a link. The portal will close on September 15, 2021. After that date, late applications will not be accepted.

With any questions, please contact Sarah Wright at smwright@utah.gov or 801-538-1418.

SCORING MATRIX

<i>General</i>	
The project has clear long-term benefits that are defined and measurable	25
The project is innovative	10
The project leverages other funding sources	10
The project has a sound plan and budget	10
The project benefits vulnerable populations that have been affected adversely by the COVID-19 pandemic	10
The project does not create a funding dependency	5
The project is a collaborative effort with multiple entities	5
	75

<i>Project-Specific Category: Housing</i>	
The project, if located within an MPO boundary area, is in proximity to transit corridors*	10
The project serves individuals and families whose income is 50% or below Area Median Income (AMI)	10
The project has a gross rent no greater than 30% of household income	2.5
The project has a deed restriction to maintain affordability	2.5
<i>*If not located within an MPO boundary area, the applicant will receive an automatic 10 points</i>	25

<i>Project-Specific Category: Water & Sewer</i>	
The project mitigates a public health challenge	5
The project supports community resilience related to water, drought, or climate change	5
The project provides a substantive water quality benefit	5
The project benefits a hardship community	2.5
The project conserves or expands current water storage capacity	2.5
The project integrates land use and water use planning	2.5
The project addresses an existing or impending water supply need	2.5
	25

Project-Specific Category - Broadband

The project targets unserved or underserved areas	10
The project is located in an economically distressed area of the state	5
The project targets last-mile gaps in network connection	2.5
The project is unlikely to be funded by the private sector	5
The project addresses digital equity	2.5

25

Project-Specific Category: Public Health Impact

The project mitigates COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, or deaths, or increases vaccination rates	10
The project addresses (a) physical or behavioral issue(s) exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic	5
The project addresses a need related to the COVID-19 pandemic not funded elsewhere	5
The project targets (a) population group(s) at higher risk of being impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic	5

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Project-Specific Category: Economic Opportunities and Recovery

The project has a firm timeline to reach full impact	5
The project demonstrates capacity for impact with longevity	5
The project increases economic stabilization	5
The project targets areas of lowest recovery and highest geographical impact	5
The project increases capacity to recruit or retain employees	2.5
The project aligns with existing projects and programs	2.5

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APPENDIX B



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COVID-19 Local Assistance Matching Grant Program Award List

-November 29, 2021-

Project title	Applicant	County	Rural or urban?*	Project category	Total project costs	Award amount
Antimony Town Water System Improvements	Town of Antimony	Garfield	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$2,500,000	\$1,000,000
Aspen Grove/Forest Service Well Site	Utah County	Utah	Urban	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$3,000,000	\$1,500,000
Bicknell Town Tank and Well	Bicknell Town	Wayne	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$3,050,000	\$1,500,000
Enoch City Culinary Water Tank	Enoch City Corporation	Iron	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$1,080,228	\$269,638
Ephraim City Drought Resiliency: Drinking Water System Improvements	Ephraim City	Sanpete	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$3,700,000	\$1,200,000
Explore Utah 2022	Morgan County	11 counties	Rural	Economic Recovery	\$180,770	\$116,437
Extension of Green & Healthy Homes Project	Salt Lake County	Salt Lake	Urban	Public Health	\$3,000,000	\$1,500,000
Fisher Ranch Water Treatment Plant	Jordanelle Special Service District	Wasatch	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$22,869,000	\$5,000,000

<i>Project title</i>	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Rural or urban?*</i>	<i>Project category</i>	<i>Total project costs</i>	<i>Award amount</i>
Flight Park Culinary Well	Lehi City	Utah	Urban	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$2,600,000	\$1,000,000
Granary District Flood Plain Mitigation and Re-Mapping	Salt Lake City Corporation	Salt Lake	Urban	Water and Sewer (Wastewater)	\$13,450,000	\$2,000,000
Harris Village Community Center	Tooele County	Tooele	Rural	Housing	\$19,421,813	\$1,500,000
Heber Old Town Water & Sewer Infrastructure Replacement Project--Phase 1	Heber City	Wasatch	Rural	Water and Sewer (Combined Drinking Water/Wastewater)	\$24,000,000	\$3,000,000
Hildale Groundwater System Project	Washington County Water Conservancy District	Washington	Urban	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$94,766	\$75,000
Hildale Utah Last Mile Extension	Hildale City	Washington	Urban	Broadband	\$82,800	\$75,000
Intervention to Create New Offices and Food Pantry for Town	Town of Bluff	San Juan	Rural	Economic Recovery	\$91,000	\$28,996
Joseph Town Springs Redevelopment Project	Town of Joseph	Sevier	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$1,190,248	\$500,000
Junction Town Water System Improvements	Junction Town	Piute	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$1,254,611	\$1,244,611
Koosharem Town SCADA	Town of Koosharem	Sevier	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$75,000	\$10,000

<i>Project title</i>	<i>Applicant</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Rural or urban?*</i>	<i>Project category</i>	<i>Total project costs</i>	<i>Award amount</i>
Lewiston City Culinary Water System Improvements	City of Lewiston	Cache	Urban	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$9,908,000	\$1,000,000
Mountain Green Wastewater Plant Expansion and Upgrade 2022	Mountain Green Sewer Improvement District	Morgan	Rural	Water and Sewer (Wastewater)	\$15,500,000	\$3,000,000
MWDSLS Aquifer Storage and Recovery Pilot Testing and Phase 1	Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake & Sandy	Salt Lake	Urban	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$6,130,500	\$3,000,000
Necessary FTTH and Fiber Infrastructure	Kaysville City	Davis	Urban	Broadband	\$2,630,060	\$1,100,000
Point Hotel	Salt Lake City Corporation	Salt Lake	Urban	Housing	\$5,250,000	\$3,000,000
Residences at 9th and Wall	Weber County	Weber	Urban	Housing	\$15,036,670	\$1,900,000
Salt Lake City Pedestrian Bridge	Utah Transit Authority	Salt Lake	Urban	Economic Recovery	\$8,515,656	\$1,500,000
Sewer Lagoon Repairs	Town of Hanksville	Wayne	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$225,000	\$26,000
Southwest Quadrant Water Storage and Sewer Line Expansion	City of West Jordan	Salt Lake	Urban	Water and Sewer (Combined Drinking Water/Wastewater)	\$17,500,000	\$4,000,000
Summit County Senior Services	Summit County	Summit	Rural	Public Health	\$197,653	\$177,653
The Point Transitional Housing	City of St. George	Washington	Urban	Housing	\$4,600,000	\$2,000,000
The San Rafael Energy Research Center (SRERC) Sanitary Sewer Line Project	Emery County	Emery	Rural	Water and Sewer (Wastewater)	\$800,000	\$175,000

Project title	Applicant	County	Rural or urban?*	Project category	Total project costs	Award amount
Torrey Town Water Storage Tank Project	Torrey Town	Wayne	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$1,700,000	\$1,650,000
Walnut Lane Apartments	Moab City	Grand	Rural	Housing	\$2,240,989	\$613,061
Waterline Replacement Project	Fruit Heights City Corporation	Davis	Urban	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$2,914,645	\$1,000,000
Weber River Watershed Restoration Project & Resilience Fund	Summit County	Summit	Rural	Water and Sewer (Wastewater)	\$84,000,000	\$1,000,000
Wellington Water Improvement Project 2021	Wellington City	Carbon	Rural	Water and Sewer (Drinking Water)	\$7,580,170	\$800,000
West Valley City Wetland Park	West Valley City Parks & Recreation	Salt Lake	Urban	Economic Recovery	\$14,337,816	\$2,000,000

Total:	\$49,461,396
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**Urban is defined by the COVID-19 Local Matching Grant Program Review Committee as any county of the first, second, or third class. Rural is defined as any county of the fourth, fifth, or sixth class.*